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Attorney Docket No. P24196

In re application of : Nobumasa SUZUKI et al.

Serial No. : 10/659,302

Filed : September 11, 2003

For : ROD FIXING APPARATUS FOR VERTEBRA CONNECTING MEMBER

Mail Stop Non-Fee
Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Unknown

Mail Stop Non-Fee
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-captioned application.

___ Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

___ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

X An Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form 1449, and references cited.

X No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
			Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 3	20	0	x 9=	\$0.00	x 18=	\$
Indep. Claims: 2	3	0	x 43=	\$0.00	x 86=	\$
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+145=	\$0.00	+290=	\$
Extension Fees for Month				\$0.00		\$
Total:				\$0.00	Total:	\$

*If less than 20, write 20

**If less than 3, write 3

___ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$_____.

N/A A Check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing/extension fee is included.

X The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

X Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

X Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 CFR 1.136)(a)(3).

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